

Remarks/Arguments:

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in light of the present amendments and following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-30 are pending; Claims 16-28 were previously withdrawn from consideration; and Claims 1, 5-7, 9-11, and 30 are amended; Claim 31 is cancelled; and no claims are newly added herewith. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added by this amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claim 9 was objected to; Claims 5 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Davari et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,333,532, hereafter Davari); Claims 1, 2, and 10-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as anticipated by Leobandung et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,180,486, hereafter Leobandung); Claims 1, 3, 4, and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as anticipated by Chen et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,214,653, hereafter Chen); Claims 1 and 29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Davari in view of Adkisson et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,350,653, hereafter Adkisson); Claim 15 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Leobandung in view of Sato et al. ("2000 Symposium on BLSI Technology Digest," pages 82-83, hereafter Sato); Claims 7, 8, and 14 were allowed; and Claims 30 and 31 were indicated as allowable.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication that Claims 30 and 31 contain allowable subject matter. Claim 1 has been amended to recite "the bulk growth layer including a silicon bulk growth layer and a silicon germanium bulk growth layer," which was previously recited in Claim 31. Additionally, Claim 30 has been amended to be in independent form, thereby placing Claim 30 in condition for allowance.

Accordingly, as Claim 1, from which Claims 2-13, 15, and 29 depend, has been amended to incorporate allowable subject matter, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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